## Dear Committee:

I offer my most humble and most sincere apology to each and every one of you for my role in the events and actions surrounding the investigation, by the select committee, formed through House Resolution 129 for the Michigan House of Representatives.

I admit I had an inappropriate relationship with Representative Cindy Gamrat. I admit that I attempted to cover up the affair by sending an outlandish email. My actions in and around these events, did not rise to the honor that has been bestowed upon me as State Representative.

It was a mistake to hire friends to work as staffers in my office. I did not set clear guidelines on strict use of government time. This created an untenable situation for the staffers and the official office in Lansing. The lack of clarity of roles and responsibility caused difficulty in delineating personal, political, and official duties for the staff. Under these conditions, maintaining and allowing joint staffing with Representative Cindy Gamrat was set up for failure. My office staff is now separated and is in compliance with the House Business Office Rules. I implemented structure and clarity of roles to avoid the misuse of state facilities and/or funds.

I admit that my actions after the affair became public were clearly inappropriate. It was an emotional reaction and not well thought out. Moving forward, I take full responsibility for my actions and lack of better judgment.

I sincerely and humbly ask for forgiveness from all those involved. I ask forgiveness because I presented myself in a way that brought embarrassment not only on me and family, but on the House, my district, and the state. I take full responsibility for my actions that jeopardized the integrity of the Michigan Legislature. For that, I am truly sorry.

I ask that you consider a public censure in lieu of expulsion to allow me the opportunity to redeem myself in the public eye and restore the integrity of the State of Michigan. I am willing to respectfully pay for the misuse of taxpayers' dollars outlined in the report. I understand and accept any conditions placed upon my office by the House of Representatives to allow this regretful chapter to close. I believe this is the best outcome possible both for the 82<sup>nd</sup> District and also for the people of our great State,

God Bless

Representative Todd Courser